



Sahuaro Weekly Update



"Where neighbors help neighbors build community."

Vice Mayor Steve Frate, Glendale Arizona

April 1, 2011

28th Annual Glendale Jazz & Blues Festival.

Glendale's 28th Annual Jazz & Blues Festival will feature a tremendous entertainment lineup in Historic Downtown Glendale April 9-10.

[Read More.](#)



Fuel Use Reduced by 129,000 Gallons. With gas prices flirting with the \$4 mark, the city of Glendale's three-year move to reduce gas consumption will help blunt the pain at the pump for the city's fleet of just over 1,200 vehicles.

Over the past three years, the city has reduced the number of vehicles it operates by 106. It has also downsized 200 vehicles from V-8 to more fuel efficient 4 cylinder models, and has 300 vehicles that can operate on E85, a fuel mixture of 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent unleaded gas. E85 currently costs \$2.71 per gallon, significantly less than unleaded gas. The fleet vehicle reduction, along with other city moves, has resulted in 1,245,000 fewer miles driven and a 129,300 gallon reduction in fuel used. That could calculate to a half million dollar savings.

Other moves by the city include piloting the use of hybrid vehicles and creating a motor pool of 21 vehicles taken out of regular service. The motor pool gives city departments access to

vehicles on an as-needed basis without having to maintain the full operation costs of having a dedicated vehicle. The motor pool was a large factor in the city's ability to reduce its fleet of vehicles from 1,414 in 2009 to 1,209 currently.

Another factor in the city's efforts to reduce fuel consumption is its rigorous maintenance schedule. Factors like proper tire inflation and clean air filters affect a vehicles gas mileage.

For tips on how you can reduce your personal gas consumption, [click here](#).

New Funding Available to Help Combat Homelessness. Glendale families who are homeless or in danger of losing a safe place to live may find there's help available thanks to an additional \$316,132 of funds recently awarded to the city of Glendale.

The federal funds, which are part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, will be used to serve two groups:

- those who are at risk of becoming homeless and need temporary rent or utility assistance to be able to maintain housing, and
- those who are homeless, residing in emergency or transitional shelters and need temporary assistance to obtain permanent housing.

To help these groups, the funding can be used for short-term or medium-term rental assistance, or items such as security and/or utility deposits. The \$316,132 of funding was awarded to the city based on the success of the program and its impact on the community. Previously, city staff oversaw the use of more than \$914,122 and was acknowledged for efficiently using the money to help people in Glendale affected by the recession.

To learn more about the new funding and who qualifies for assistance, check online at www.glendaleaz.com/cap or call the city's Community Action Program (CAP) at 623 930-2854.

Free Personal Finance Classes — Open to All Glendale Residents. Getting control of your personal finances is the focus of a new series of free classes offered by the city of Glendale in partnership with the Thunderbird School of Global Management.

Four classes will be held at 10 a.m. on consecutive Saturdays at the Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown Street. The classes include:

- April 9: Getting Started – Participants learn how to take control of their money, set goals, and their budget.
- April 16: Assessment of your Situation – Topics include understanding your net worth, cutting debt, and credit.
- April 23: Money Management – This topic includes, understanding how loans work, and the importance of checking and savings accounts.

- April 30: Teaching Value and Protection – The final class covers how to protect you from fraud and identity theft and how to teach children about money.

The classes, taught by a representative of Thunderbird School of Global Management, are presented as a collective effort with Glendale's Parks, Recreation and Library department as part of Glendale University's elective classes. Glendale University (GU) is a series of "101" and "graduate" classes designed to help Glendale residents learn more about municipal government. Like those GU classes, these personal finance classes are free for residents.

Seating is limited to 30 participants per class. Attendance at the full four-part series is encouraged, although registration for individual classes is allowed. Registration deadline for the series is Friday, April 8. To register, call Glendale's Neighborhood Partnership Office at 623-930-2868.

Around Town

[Click here](#) for the City Council meeting schedule. [Click here](#) for past Council meeting agendas and minutes. [Click here](#) to watch a City Council meeting online.

Glendale Family Health & Awareness Fair - TOMORROW! Join us for this free family event on Saturday, April 2 from 9 a.m.-noon at the Glendale Family Health Center, 5141 W. Lamar Road. Presented by the city of Glendale and the Maricopa Integrated Health System, this event will offer medical screenings, children's activities, community resource information and more. [Click here](#) for an event flyer.

Walk-in Small Business Counseling. No appointments are necessary for "Walk-In Counseling with SCORE" from 12:15–3:45 p.m. on Saturday, April 2, in the small meeting room at Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. The Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) advises on all areas of business, from start-up information to marketing and accounting concerns. The counseling is free. For more information about SCORE, call 602-745-7250.

Residents' Input Sought on GO Transportation Program. Residents are invited to attend an open house to get an update on transportation projects included in the Glendale Onboard (GO) Transportation Program. The GO Program Open House will be held from 4:30-7 p.m., Wednesday, April 13, at the Glendale Civic Center, 5750 W. Glenn Dr.

This opportunity will give residents a chance to speak with Glendale transportation representatives and engineering consultants, learn more about current and upcoming transportation projects, and provide input on the program. Light refreshments will be served.

In 2001, Glendale voters approved Proposition 402, which dedicated a half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements and created the city's GO Transportation Program. To date, GO program efforts have resulted in expanded transit services, and enhanced traffic flow and safety on Glendale streets and at intersections. There has also been further development of bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout the city. Many additional improvements are scheduled for construction during the next several years. These projects will be featured at the open house and in the GO Program Annual Report.

[Click here](#) to view the Annual Report. For more information on Glendale's transportation program, call 623-930-2940.

Shred It & Forget It. Glendale's Community Action Teams are proud to partner with the Target Corporation and Cintas Document Management Company to offer free document shredding to the community to help combat identity theft. Credit card offers, tax returns, medical bills and old bank statements should be shredded rather than simply thrown in the trash. The "Shred It & Forget It" events offered throughout the year is a fast, convenient, drive-thru service where you can bring up to three standard-size file boxes boxes of documents for secure shredding. The next event is Saturday, April 30th at the Target located at 10040 N 43rd Avenue from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or until the shred trucks are full. For more information on identity theft and "Shred It & Forget It," call (623) 930-2571. [Read more.](#)

National Take Back Day. The Glendale Police Department is coordinating a one-day collaborative effort with the Drug Enforcement Administration to remove potentially dangerous prescription drugs from our nation's homes. The "National Take Back Initiative Day" will be on Saturday, April 30th at **two** Glendale locations! We will be at the Target parking lot at 10404 North 43rd Ave. (Peoria & 43rd) and in the parking lot at Cabela's at 9830 West Glendale Ave. Glendale's collection sites will be available from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. This is the opportunity for residents to safely and conveniently surrender expired, unwanted, or unused pharmaceutical controlled substances and other medications. For more information, [click here](#) or call 623-930-2571.

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